

HOUSE PRINCIPLES

Members are encouraged to evaluate proposed legislation in light of the following guiding principles of the House of Representatives

- Balance the state budget.
- Create a legal and regulatory environment that fosters economic growth and job creation.
- Lower the tax burden on families and businesses.
- Reverse or restrain the growth of government.
- Promote public safety.
- Promote educational accountability, excellence, and choice.
- Foster respect for the family and for innocent human life.
- Protect Florida's natural beauty.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

Currently, every supervisor of elections must furnish a voter information card to every registered voter in the supervisor's county. The card must include the following information:

- date of registration;
- full name of elector;
- party affiliation;
- date of birth;
- legal residence address;
- precinct number;
- supervisor's name and contact information; and,
- other information deemed necessary by the supervisor.¹

Replacement cards are provided free of charge upon verification of the voter's registration, if the voter provides a signed written request for a replacement card.² The voter also may use the uniform statewide voter registration application to request a replacement card.³ New cards are issued automatically when a voter's name, address, or party affiliation changes.⁴

According to the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, 61 counties include the polling place address on the voter information card. Counties that do not include the polling place address are *Glades*, *Jefferson*, *Madison*, *Orange*, *Taylor*, and *Volusia*.⁵

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill requires the voter information card prescribed in s. 97.071, F.S., to include the address of the polling place. If an elector's address of legal residence or polling place address changes, the supervisor of elections must send the elector a new voter information card. For any elector who registers to vote or is issued a new voter information card pursuant to s. 97.071(2) or (3), F.S., after

¹ s. 97.071(1), F.S.

² s. 97.071(2), F.S.

³ s. 97.052(1), F.S.

⁴ s. 97.071(3), F.S. See also s. 97.1031, F.S.

⁵ Information received from the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, February 23, 2010.

September 1, 2010, the supervisor of elections must include the polling place address on the elector's voter information card.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 97.01, F.S., to add polling place address to the information required on the voter information card required to be given to all registered voters residing in a Supervisor of Elections county and to issue the voter a new card when the polling place address changes.

Section 2. Creates an unnumbered section of law to require a supervisor of elections to include the polling place address on certain electors voter information cards after September 1, 2010.

Section 3. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2010.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

See "Fiscal Comments."

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The fiscal impact has not been determined for the six counties that will be required to issue new voter information cards reflecting the polling place address. While it varies from county to county, the average county cost to print and mail one card is approximately 52 cents. For electors who register to vote or are issued new voter information cards after September 1, 2010, the bill requires the supervisor of elections to issue voter information cards containing the polling place address.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill is exempt from the mandate requirements because it is amending the elections laws.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

On March 24, 2010, the Governmental Affairs Policy Committee adopted one amendment to House Bill 625 and passed the bill as a committee substitute. The committee substitute changed the timeframe for implementation by the supervisors of elections and clarified the electors covered by the requirement. Specifically, the committee substitute requires supervisors of elections to issue voter information cards containing the polling place to address to electors who register to vote or who are issued voter information cards pursuant to s 97.021, (2) or (3), F.S., after September 1, 2010.